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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Appl. No.: 09/934,300
 Applicant(s): Talarico *et al.*
 Filed: 8/21/01
 Art Unit: 1645
 Examiner: S. Devi
 Title: METHODS FOR PURIFICATION OF AN ACTIVATED PEG SOLUTION
 AND FOR THE SYNTHESIS OF A MODIFIED HEMOGLOBIN SOLUTION

Confirmation No.: 8297

Docket No.: 035780/233666
 Customer No.: 00826

Mail Stop Amendment
 Commissioner for Patents
 P.O. Box 1450
 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INTERVIEW SUMMARY

Sir:

An interview in the above-referenced matter occurred on November 16, 2005 between Examiner Devi and Applicants' representatives, Murray Spruill and Michelle L. Cunningham. Applicants provide below a summary of the interview.

The July 15, 2005 Office Action was discussed. Specifically, claims 12-19 were discussed in view of the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) and 35 U.S.C. § 103(a). In particular, the rejection of claim 12 as anticipated by Greenwald *et al.* (1996) *Bioconjugate Chem.* 7:638-641 was discussed. An agreement was reached that amendment of subpart (c) of claim 12 to recite "combining said resulting filtered aPEG solution of step (b) with a hemoglobin solution" would overcome the rejection of the claims based upon the Greenwald *et al.* reference. The Examiner further suggested amending claim 12 to recite "A method of preparing a solution of a chemically modified hemoglobin" to more clearly define the invention. To further prosecution, Applicants' representatives agreed to submit a Supplemental Amendment to incorporate the Examiner's suggestions into claim 12.

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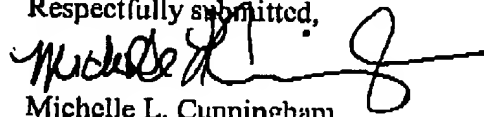
Appl. No.: 09/934,300
Amdt. dated 11/17/2005
Reply to Interview Summary of November 16, 2005

In addition, the Examiner recommended amending claim 14 to expressly recite that the solvent is ethanol and to remove reference to methanol and acetonitrile as potential solvents. Although no formal rejection has been made that necessitates such an amendment, Applicants' representatives agreed to consider incorporating the Examiner's proposed amendment to claim 14 to expedite prosecution.

The Examiner indicated that amendment of the claims in accordance with her suggestions would place the claims in condition for allowance.

The Examiner is respectfully requested to enter this Interview Summary into the above-referenced matter. It is not believed that extensions of time or fees for net addition of claims are required, beyond those which may otherwise be provided for in documents accompanying this paper. However, in the event that additional extensions of time are necessary to allow consideration of this paper, such extensions are hereby petitioned under 37 CFR § 1.136(a), and any fee required therefore (including fees for net addition of claims) is hereby authorized to be charged to Deposit Account No. 16-0605.

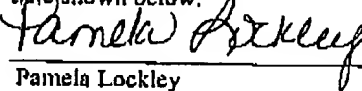
Respectfully submitted,


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Pamela Lockley

11/17/05
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